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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TOPIC Activation of a Motorized Artillery Regiment in Tabor

25X1X 25X1A

EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF CONTENT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE PREPARED 17 February 1950

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 standard manpower questionnaire

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

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1. The Hv Arty Bn Utvar No 4517 was transferred from Tyn nad Vltavou (O 50/L 89) to Tabor (O 50/L 01) in September 1949. The 150-mm howitzers of the battalion were shipped to the area of Mor. Ostrava (O 40/O 59). A motorized AT artillery battalion, equipped with 25 to 30 AT guns, was almost simultaneously transferred from Ctyri Dvory, located west of C. Budejovice (O 49/L 96), to Tyn nad Vltavou. The AT guns were towed by Praga trucks. \_\_\_\_\_ met personnel of the 25X1X 310th and 320th Arty Bns from Jince (N 50/L 45) in Tabor, where these battalions had also been transferred. Soldiers of these battalions said no artillery unit had remained in Jince. A new motorized artillery regiment was initially organized in Tabor from the three artillery battalions mentioned.\*

2. Data on the Tabor motorized artillery regiment:

a. Superior headquarters:

A headquarters in Brno (P 50/N 40), as far as the deserter knew.

b. Utvar No.: 2061.

c. Quarters:

Dr. Eduard Benes Barracks, where no additional units were stationed.

d. Officers at the Regt HQ:

CO: Col Netolicky

Dpty CO: Col Prem

Special-Missions and DOZ Officer: Maj Mezoun

Political Officer: Capt Belohuby

Supply Officer: Staff Capt Bychlik

Unknown appointment: Lt Col Plansky

Most of the officers had served with the former Czech "East-Army".

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e. Organization: HQ Btry and 1st through 8th Btry.

f. Strength: Each battery had an estimated strength of 60 men. There were 12-man gun crews, including the chief of section and the driver. The strength of the regiment was estimated at 500 to 600 troops.

g. Armament: Thirty-two 105-mm howitzers of German make. Twenty-six of the howitzers were factory-new and were issued to the regiment upon its activation. The other howitzers were used but were in excellent condition. Each battery was equipped with 4 howitzers and 2 machine guns.

h. Motor vehicles:

The howitzers were towed by 120 to 140-HP prime movers of Krauss Maffey make. Each battery was equipped with four prime movers, one truck for signal equipment, one truck for ammunition, two passenger cars, and motorcycles for messengers. All motor vehicles were in excellent mechanical condition.

j. Training:

The regiment did not participate in any maneuvers up to the time of observation. Practice alerts, followed by night marches were held twice a week.

k. Other units in Tabor:

An infantry unit, presumably a regiment, was stationed in the Zizka Barracks opposite the Benes Barracks. \*\*\* Tanks, allegedly a German type with new 12-cylinder engines, were stored in the area of the Zizka Barracks. Designations such as "Tank Storage Depot/1st Section" and "Tank Storage Depot/2d Section" were known to the deserter (1).

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Comment:

\* Credence is given to the information on the activation in Tabor of a new motorized artillery regiment comprising the following artillery battalions which had been transferred there.

a. 304th Arty Bn; previously identified in Tyn nad Vltavou by its Utvar No 4517; then belonging to the 4th Arty Brig of the dissolved 2d AD.

b. 310th Arty Bn; previously identified in Jince) both battalions  
c. 320th Arty Bn; previously identified in Jince) belonged to the  
Kolin 23rd Arty  
Brig of the  
Kolin artillery  
division.

It appears that the new artillery regiment, Tabor, was activated from artillery units which previously belonged to different command

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headquarters. Although no exact information is yet available, it is considered possible that the activation of the new regiment may have been effected in connection with a reorganization of Czech artillery. The new artillery regiment is uniformly equipped with German light field howitzers "12" (105-mm caliber). The 34th Arty Bn, previously equipped with German heavy field howitzers "18" (150-mm caliber) turned in these weapons.

\*\* The AT artillery battalion which was transferred from Ctyri Dvory (suburb of C. Dubejovice) to Tyn nad Vltavou, was the 200th AT Arty Bn of the 1st Inf Div. The battalion had been confirmed in Ctyri Dvory up to June 1949.

\*\*\* The infantry unit stationed in the Lizka Barracks, Tabor, probably was a battalion of the Benesov 48th Inf Regt/1st Inf Div. The battalion had been known to be stationed in Tabor up to December 1948.

(1) No information on a Tabor ordnance depot for tanks has been available yet.

(2) Data on induction and discharge confirms previous information.

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